



NEWS RELEASE

ARIZONA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1700 West Washington • Phoenix, Arizona • 85007-2844

PHONE: (602) 926-3233 • FAX: (602) 417-3043

Speaker of the House Andy Tobin, R-Prescott (Dist. 01)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SPEAKER TOBIN GREATLY CONCERNED BY TRANSFER OF MIGRANT CHILDREN FROM TEXAS TO ARIZONA

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX (June. 9, 2014) – Speaker of the House Andy Tobin said he was greatly concerned about the systematic transport of children apprehended by federal border patrol agents in Texas to locations in Arizona.

“This action by the federal government demonstrates a total disregard for the potentially dangerous situation that these children are being put in,” said Speaker Tobin, “and a willful disregard of basic protocols that would have involved notifying someone in Arizona about these transfers.”

Speaker Tobin fully supports Maricopa County Attorney Bill Montgomery’s letter urging Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to cease and desist the transfer of these children. In the letter Montgomery notes that placing children in harm’s way, which these transfers may amount to, could constitute felony child abuse under Arizona law, as well as a violation of the United Nations’s declaration on human rights - Montgomery’s press release is attached.

“The Governor and the Legislature in June made a concerted effort to reform and fund an independent agency that would protect all children from abuse and the criminal elements that prey on them,” said Speaker Tobin. “The Obama administration’s transport of these children from Texas to Arizona only exacerbates the challenge this agency and all Arizonans face.”

MEDIA CONTACT:

Christopher Leone
Communications Specialist
cleone@azleg.gov
602.926.3233 (office)
480.242.8643 (cell)

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